

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 7. (Cancelled).

8. (New). A printer system comprising an option module for performing a specific function while being connected to a printer, the printer system comprising:

a printer control means for receiving a print job and storing the print job in a receiving buffer;

the printer control means deciding, based on a portion of the print job, a printer control language in which the print job is written; wherein,

If the printer control means decides that the print job is written in a first printer control language, then the printer control means instructing a first analytic means to start processing the print job;

the first analytic means, upon receiving instructions from the printer control means, sequentially reading out and analyzing the print data from the receiving buffer and generating a band or page of raster format print image and storing the band or page of raster format print image in an image buffer, and sequentially reading out and interpreting control commands from the receiving buffer and output specific instructions to the printer control means; and wherein

If the printer control means decides that the print job is written in a second printer control language, the printer control means instructs a second analytic means to start processing the print job; and wherein,

the second analytic means, upon receiving the instruction from the printer control means, inquiring to the printer control means regarding whether or not the printer can use specific print functions; and wherein

upon receiving the inquiry from the second analytic means; the printer control means notifying the second analytic means as to whether or not each print function is usable,

the second analytic means, upon receiving the notification from the printer control means, and designating only the usable print functions based on the notification, sequentially reading out and analyzing the print data from the reception buffer and generating a band or page of raster format print image and storing the print data into an image buffer and processing to sequentially read out and interpret the control commands from the reception buffer and output specific instructions to the printing control means;

Upon receiving the instructions from the first analytic means or the second analytic means, the printing control means controlling the printer engine so as to configure the status necessary to start printing.

9. (New). A control method for an option module for performing a specific function while being connected to a printer, comprising the steps of:

receiving a print job and storing the print job in a receiving buffer;
deciding, based on a portion of the print job, a printer control language in which the print job is written; wherein,

If it is decided that the print job is written in a first printer control language, then instructing a first analytic means to start processing the print job;

the first analytic means, upon receiving instructions from the printer control means, sequentially reading out and analyzing the print data from the receiving buffer and generating a band or page of raster format print image and storing the band or page of raster format print image into an image buffer, and sequentially reading out and interpreting control commands from the receiving buffer and output specific instructions to the printer control means; and wherein

If it is decided that the print job is written in a second printer control language, instructing a second analytic means to start processing the print job; and wherein

the second analytic means, upon receiving the instruction from the printer control means, inquiring to the printer control means regarding whether or not the printer can use specific print functions; and wherein

upon receiving the inquiry from the second analytic means; the printer control means notifying the second analytic means as to whether or not each print function is usable,

the second analytic means, upon receiving the notification from the printer control means, and designating only the usable print functions based on the notification, sequentially reading out and analyzing the print data from the reception buffer and generating a band or page of raster format print image and storing the print data into an image buffer and processing to sequentially read out and interpret the control commands from the reception buffer and output specific instructions to the printing control means;

Upon receiving the instructions from the first analytic means or the second analytic means, the printing control means controlling the printer engine so as to configure the status necessary to start printing.